

~~TOP SECRET TRINE~~ VENONA

M1206

MOB

From: MOSCOW

To: OTTAWA [a]

No: 387

29 August 1944

In July in PORTLAND the fireman of the ship "YAKUT", SOKOV Andrej Kuz'mich deserted. He was caught with the help of the American authorities, put aboard the ship with the participation of "VITALIJ" [1], and on 2 August delivered to PETROPAVLOVSK. You did not inform us of the catching of SOKOV. The SOKOV case once again testifies to the weak work on preventing desertions, which is explained primarily by the poor work with the probationer network on the ships. Since November 1943 over five hundred names of ship probationers were from time to time provided

[9 groups unrecovered]

to KHARON [11] and then you, so that they might be contacted, but information about them was not reported in time to "VITALIJ" and to the other group leaders, as a result of which they have not been contacting the probationers in PORTLAND and other ports. The probationer staff and in particular that of the residents [D% is still a] [2 groups unrecovered] one and consequently, having our information about them, [C% one can/could]

[51 groups unrecovered]

[C% request] the extradition of deserters from the American authorities, which however in the majority of cases is not done. It is necessary to get liaison with the cadre workers going to pass on in time our information about the probationers, and to make use of them to the fullest extent to keep tabs on crews and prevent treasonous acts.

No. 59
29 August 1944

SEMEN [111]

Notes:

[a] Also sent to SAN FRANCISCO and NEW YORK.

Comments:

- [1] VITALIJ: Pavel Kuzmich REVIZOROV.
- [11] KHARON: Grigoriy Markovich KHEJFETS.
- [111] SEMEN: unidentified cover-name.

9 October 1968

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